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that the reader is entitled to a more detailed statement of their extent and method before he is ready to accept them as final vindications of the author's contentions.

One more quotation: On page 441, the author, speaking of the social discrimination practiced in this country against the Jews, as witnessed by the refusal of certain hotels and schools to accept Jews as guests or pupils, asserts that "the isolation of the Jew is in this respect as stringent as it was within the gates of the mediæval Ghetto." We can not refrain from remarking that, humiliating as such discriminations are to the members of the Jewish race, the above is a gross overstatement of their efficacy and importance.

To sum up, the book, which undoubtedly contains much of value, needs a careful scrutiny of the statistical evidence and the elimination of all that is not strictly accurate; it needs a careful revision to avoid misleading statements and ill-considered reasoning; and, finally, it needs to be purged of all bias and exaggeration before it can be accepted as a real contribution to the scientific literature on the Jews.

E. A. GOLDENWEISER.

Washington, D. C.

#### THE AMERICAN YEAR BOOK.

D. Appleton and Company, New York. 1911. Pp. xx, 867.

The first issue of the American Year Book fully justifies the enterprise of the publishers. It is unique in plan, comprehensive in its scope, authoritative and accurate in the matter it presents, and characterized throughout by good sense, both in what is included and in what is excluded. All this might have been predicated in advance of a work in the preparation of which so many men eminent in their respective departments of knowledge took a part; over the details of which a wise advisory board presided; and the actual collation and arrangement of which was entrusted to the hand of Dr. S. N. D. North.

In effect the Year Book is a condensed annual encyclopedia. It contains substantially all that the ordinary man will wish to know when he is seeking for the "record of progress" in any field of politics, foreign affairs, science, education—in short, of anything which is worth knowing; and it outlines all that the student in any field will need to know in order to prosecute research further. That is all that can be expected of a manual upon the plan of this. Of course it does not displace and supersede all other annuals. The biggest and most comprehensive of all—a bigger and more comprehensive one than any now in existence—could not contain all that every one would find sufficient. But it is high praise, and fully deserved, to say of this Year Book that those who have it at hand will be likely to turn to it first for any information they desire on any subject relative to the progress of the world during the period it covers.

It is not necessary to give a detailed summary of its contents. It is divided into thirty-five parts, each of which is contributed by one or more persons, and the list of contributors numbers more than ninety names. Thirty-two learned or technical societies coöperated, more or less, though all coöperated actively in the preparation of the matter. Nearly fifty of the contributors are professors or instructors in American universities and colleges, and the rest are experts—many of them in the service of the national government—in the subjects treated by them. The arrangement of the book is admirable. By grouping all the matter relating to any one general topic in a single department, and by supplementing the whole work with an excellent index, the vexations often inevitable when one is consulting an annual handbook alphabetically arranged, are completely avoided.

EDWARD STANWOOD.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1909 OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (LONDON), 1910. 11d.

In 1907 the Education Act required each Local Education Authority to provide for the medical inspection of children immediately before, or at the time of, or as soon as possible after their admission to a public elementary school, and on such other occasions as the Board of Education direct. The Code for 1909–10 required that all children admitted since the first of August, 1909, and all children who were expected to leave school before July 31, 1910, should be examined with regard to the conditions of health and physical development. Perhaps this second group called "leavers" is the more important since it will tell the story of the practice or neglect of hygiene during school life and may determine certain questions of employment of the child. In addition they examined any children who were reported by the teachers to be in bad physical condition. It is probable that at least 250,000 of this special class were examined. To carry out this Act has required the examination of about a million and a half children. The provisions of the Act and the Code have been generally obeyed throughout the Kingdom with the exception of London.

Since the examinations were not uniform throughout the whole Kingdom it is difficult to give any statistics approaching absolute accuracy, but it may be stated in general terms that of the six million children in the public elementary schools of England and Wales, about 10 per cent. are defective in vision, from 3 per cent. to 5 per cent. defective in hearing, 8 per cent. have adenoids or enlarged tonsils of sufficient degree to require surgical treatment, from 20 per cent. to 40 per cent. suffer from extensive and injurious decay of the teeth, about 1 per cent. are affected with tuberculosis, and from one half per cent. to 2 per cent. are afflicted with heart disease. These figures certainly give a somewhat gloomy picture of the condition of the pupils in the elementary schools. No statistics on a large scale have